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REPORT NO.

CD NO.

DATE DISTR. 12 July 1950

NO. OF PAGES 12

NO. OF ENCLS. 2- Lists
(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

*See below

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2.2. Chapter 2: Social

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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up to 7 April 1950.

b. Eighth Gds Army.

117th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt, [] in Meiningen 25X1
up to 8 April 1950Adm Co/20th Gds Mecz Div, [] in Jena up to
19 April 1950655th How Arty Regt, [] in Gotha or Naumburg 25X1
up to 2 April 195070th Gds Mecz Regt, [] in Halle up to 29
October 1949136th Gds Mort Regt, [] in Halle up to
3 June 194928th Gds Tank Regt, [] in Halle up to 14 March
1950A (114th ?) Gds Mtrcl Bn/21st Gds Mecz Div, [] 25X1
(?), in Halle until 7 March 1950.A (2505th ?) Gds AAA Regt/21st Gds Mecz Div, []
in Halle up to 28 March 1950.

c. Third Shock Army

Hq 207th Mtz Rifle Div, [] (?), in Stendal 25X1
up to 22 May 1950Hq 19th Gds Mecz Div, [] in Wuenstorf up 25X1
to 27 May 195099th Gds How Arty Regt, [] in Wuenstorf up 25X1
to 6 April 1950136th Gun Arty Regt, [] in Schwerin up to 25X1
22 March 1950283rd Gds Mtz Rifle Regt, [] in Hagenow up 25X1
to 6 March 1950.

d. First Gds Mecz Army

Hq 8th Gds Mecz Div, [] in Grimma up to 19 25X1
April 19501st Gds Tank Regt, [] in Brona-Brandis up 25X1
to 19 April 1950

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Hq 9th Tank Div, [REDACTED] in Riesa up to
19 April 1950.

134th Gds Engr Bn, [REDACTED] in Dresden-Uebigau un-
til 27 February 1950.

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e. Second Gds Mecz Army

1643rd AT Arty Regt, [REDACTED] in Neustrelitz up to
10 February 1950

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Hq 9th Gds Tank Div, [REDACTED] in Neustrelitz up to
25 March 1950

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33rd Gds Mtz Rifle Regt, [REDACTED] in Pasewalk up
to 25 March 1950

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34th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt, [REDACTED] in Neuruppin
up to 2 April 1950

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226th Mort Regt, [REDACTED] in Neuruppin up to
4 March 1950

A Sig Bn/9th Gds Tank Div, [REDACTED] (?), in Neu-
ruppin up to 3 March 1950

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Hq 1st Mecz Div, [REDACTED] in Doeberitz up to 18 March
1950

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19th Mecz Regt, [REDACTED] in Doeberitz up to 3 January
1950

35th Mecz Regt, [REDACTED] in Doeberitz up to
22 April 1950

219th Tank Regt, [REDACTED] in Doeberitz up to
22 April 1950.

f. Third Gds Mecz Army

Hq 14th Gds Mecz Div, [REDACTED] in Jueterbog up to
22 April 1950

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49th Gds Mecz Regt, [REDACTED] in Jueterbog up to
22 April 1950.

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A RL Bn/14th Gds Mecz Div, [REDACTED]), in
Jueterbog up to 22 April 1950

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Hq 6th Gds Tank Div, [REDACTED] in Wittenberg up
to 17 March 1950

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Hq 7th Gds Tank Div, [REDACTED] in Rossau up to
22 April 1950

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55th Gds Tank Regt, [] in Gossau up to 23 March 1950

23rd Gds Mtz Rifle Regt, [] in Koethen up to 4 April 1950

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Hq 9th Mecz Div, [] in Vottbus up to 19 April 1950.

g. Fourth Gds Mecz Army

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312th Gds RL Regt, [] in Eberswalde up to 27 March 1950

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118th Sig Regt, [] in Eberswalde up to 27 February 1950

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Hq 6th Gds Mecz Div, [] in Eberswalde up to 17 March 1950

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35th (?) Gds Mecz Regt, [] in Bernau up to 22 April 1950

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16th Gds Mecz Regt, [] in Bad Freienwalde up to 6 March 1950

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17th Gds Mecz Regt, [] in Eberswalde up to 16 March 1950

A (95th ?) Mtrcl Bn/6th Gds Mecz Div, [] and
OO Gds Lieutenant Colonel G.D. Likhachev, in Bad Freienwalde up to 9 March 1950

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Hq 25th Tank Div, [] in Oranienburg, up to 24 May 1950

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111 Tank Regt, [] in Frenzau up to 22 April 1950

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175th Tank Regt, [] in Oranienburg (?) up to 24 May 1950

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63rd Gds Tank Regt, [] in Krampnitz or Brandenburg up to April 1950

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359th Gds AAA Regt, [] in Krampnitz up to 27 March 1950

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248th Gds RL Bn, [] in Krampnitz up to 20 May 1950.

h. Unit, the superior headquarters of which is not known.

367th Gds SF Arty Regt (?), [] in Rathenow up to 12 May 1950.

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3. Training: Transfer of divisions and army headquarters troops to the troop training grounds.

Numerous last week's reports on Soviet units departing from their home station by road and rail, on Soviet rail movements and on other subjects indicated that the mass of the Soviet divisions, army headquarters troops and GHQ troops moved to the troop training grounds after mid-April 1950.

Exact information on units arriving or staying at troop training grounds has been received from only a few places. Information on military posts and on the destination of troop trains indicates that most divisions went to those troop training grounds where they had been the summer of 1949.

a. Eighth Gds Army.

Component units of the 39th Gds Mtz Rifle Div, the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div, the 20th Gds Mecz Div and the 21st Gds Mecz Div and the Eighth Gds Army headquarters troops went to the Ohrdruf and Kindel training areas after the middle of April 1950.

It is believed that, as in 1949, the divisions of the XXVIII Gds Mtz Rifle Corps went to the Ohrdruf troop training grounds and the divisions of the XXIX Gds Mtz Rifle Corps to the Kindel troop training grounds.

Several reports on the home stations of the divisions concerned - Glauchau, Gera, Jena - state that only small rear details have remained there.

b. Third Shock Army.

Of the divisions of this army the 19th Gds Mecz Div is definitely known to have gone to the southern part of the training area of Letzling Heath, and the 18th Mecz Div to the Wittstock-Schweinrich troop training grounds. Elements of the 207th Gds Mtz Rifle Div and Third Shock Army headquarters troops presumably moved to the northern part of Letzling Heath.

Information on the departure of units has not been received from the area of the 94th Gds Mtz Rifle Div.

c. First Gds Mecz Army.

Elements of the 8th Gds Mecz Div, the 9th Tank Div and the 11th Gds Tank Div went to Koenigsbrueck on and after 10 April

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1949, according to reports from the respective military posts. The reports were confirmed by information stating that [REDACTED] tank components of the 8th Gds Mecz Div were detained in Koenigsbrueck and that troops [REDACTED] of the three divisions started arriving there at an increased rate on 10 April 1950. /1/

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d. Second Gds Mecz Army.

No reports were received from the area of the Second Gds Mecz Army to indicate that this army's divisions prepared to leave as did the other armies. Several reports on military posts stated that most of the components of the 9th Gds Tank Div /2/, 12th Gds Tank Div, /3/ and 1st Mecz Div /4/ were still in their barracks in early May 1950.

It is considered possible that the elements of these divisions will hold their summer exercises at nearby training grounds, as they did in 1949; an example is elements of the 1st Mecz Div at the Doeberitz troop training grounds.

e. Third Gds Mecz Army.

Elements of the army headquarters troops, the 6th Gds Tank Div, the 7th Gds Tank Div and the 14th Gds Mecz Div started moving to the Werder-Markendorf troop training grounds in early April 1950.

Information on a transfer of the 9th Mecz Div to a troop training grounds is not yet available. Some components of this division maneuvered at the training grounds south of Weisswasser in 1949.

Reports from the area of the Third Gds Mecz Army indicate that the movement of the army's divisions to the troop training grounds was not as continuous, an example was the movement of the Eighth Gds Army's divisions. The Rossau elements of the 7th Gds Tank Div left as early as the second half of April 1950, /5/, but the Koethen units of the division were still reported in their barracks in early May 1950. /6/

f. Fourth Gds Mecz Army.

Component units of the 6th Gds Mecz Div, the 25th Tank Div, the 10th Gds Tank Div and army headquarters troops started moving to the Templin training area in mid-April 1950. Motor vehicles [REDACTED] of all mentioned units were seen in the training area in late April 1950. /7/

The whereabouts of the component units of the 7th Gds Mecz Div have not been determined. Reports stating that Frankfurt/Oder units of this division left toward Cottbus by rail

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during the second half of April 1950 /8/ and the observation of trains with tanks going from the Fuerstenwalde area toward Cottbus via Frankfurt/Oder on 24 and 25 April 1950 /9/ indicate that the elements of the 7th Gds Mecz Div may have followed their 1949 procedure and gone to the Lieberose training area.

4. Special exercises.

a. GHQ artillery units.

Artillery units of the IV Arty Corps from Potsdam-Wedlitz (elements of the 30th Gds Gun Arty Brig [REDACTED] /10/ and from Rathenow (elements of a (10th ?) Gun Arty Brig or of the 18th How Arty Brig [REDACTED] /11/ were transferred to Altengrabow in late March and mid-April 1950, according to several reports. It can therefore be assumed that the GHQ artillery units of the GOFU were concentrated at the Altengrabow range for firing practice, as they were in 1949. It is possible that headquarters artillery units of the Eighth Gds Army may also have gone to Altengrabow. /12/

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b. AAA units.

Several reports indicate that, contrasted with the situation in 1949, when elements of all AAA divisions and the AAA components of the armies' divisions trained at Letzling Heath, elements of AAA divisions and AAA components of divisions were concentrated at the Tustrow Peninsula for joint exercises in April 1950 and thereafter. There are indications that elements of the 3rd Gds AAA Div/Third Shock Army, /13/ 31st AAA Div/Second Gds Mecz Army, /14/ Schwerin AAA units, /15/ and AAA components of the 21st Gds Mecz Div, /16/ arrived at the peninsula in and after mid-April 1950.

c. Engineer units.

Little information is available on engineer units assembling at the Bittkau-Fangerhuetten engineer troop training grounds. Mostly engineer components of the Third Shock Army held exercises there in 1949.

The only unit which has been reported to move to Bittkau was the Hillersleben ... Engr Bn of the 207th Gds Mtz Rifle Div, which left on 25 April 1950. /17/ It is possible, however, that GOFU engineer units from Dessau-Rosslau and Potsdam went to the Bittkau area. Motorized engineer columns (elements of the Dessau-Rosslau 36th Pion Bridge Regt /18/ and of the Potsdam ... Engr Brig (Regt ?) [REDACTED] were repeatedly seen in the Magdeburg area in mid-April 1950.

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5. Training at military posts.

Following the departure of units for troop training grounds, it was observed in several military posts that units had remained at the posts and were engaged in training in or near their barracks. They were presumably training units for recently arrived replacements.

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6. Personnel.

a. Reports from several military posts state that recruits or replacements from the U.S.S.R. apparently arrived in the Spring of 1950. As an example, the arrival of 200 recruits and a swearing-in ceremony for 1,200 to 1,400 troops in "Euruppin /19/ and for about 2,000 troops in Eberswalde /20/ were observed at the end of March 1950.

As no full trainloads of recruits were seen to arrive from the U.S.S.R. in April and May 1950, it is assumed that replacements were shipped to the Soviet "zone of Germany in small contingents.

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b. Reports from several military posts stated that trained personnel were evacuated for demobilization in April and May 1950.

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[REDACTED] the current demobilization of EM of the 1926 class and NCOs of the 1925 class. In some places the discharge may have been delayed, as [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] a soldier serving with a Saratov replacement unit, stating that servicemen of the 1924 and 1925 classes were discharged to their home towns as late as March 1950.

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[REDACTED] a small percentage of EM serving with the occupation forces are granted a 21-day home furlough (excluding travel time). One of those who went on furlough was of the 1927 class.

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7. [REDACTED]

a. Most of the units (divisions and GHQ units) in the Soviet Zone of Germany were confirmed up to the second half of May 1950 [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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b. A report giving the analysis [REDACTED] from the Soviet "zones of Germany and Austria and from western Hungary up to 10 June 1950 [REDACTED] attempt to analyze [REDACTED] the German Volkspolizei [REDACTED] /21/

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8. Transportation situation.

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a. The strain on the Soviet "one railroads during the reported period was particularly heavy because of extensive transfer of Soviet Army units from their military posts to the troop training grounds, and the Berlin Whitsun rally of the Free German Youth, for which 120 special trains had to be made available.

By greatly reducing all commercial passenger and freight traffic, and because of an efficient organization, the situation could be handled smoothly, but the transportation situation remained strained. Above all, freight cars suitable for transit operations continue to be a critical item.

b. The coal situation has been easing since late April 1950. Reliable stock figures for the month of May 1950 are not yet available. Diesel oil is so short in supply that the situation in this field will probably lead to restrictions in short-distance passenger traffic and in shunting operations. /22/

c. Construction projects:

(1) After completion of the remaining Oranienburg-Karow section, the northern Berlin Outer Freight Ring was opened on 6 May 1950. Although some work remains to be done on this line, /23/ its premature opening was a great help in rerouting trains around the Western Sectors of Berlin during the Whitsun rally.

(2) The complete elimination of railroad facilities under the control of the Western Allies to the north and east of Berlin will now be followed by corresponding measures in the south of the city.

The announced construction of a new line from Grossbeeren via Mahlow to Schoenwalde will eventually eliminate the Lichtenrade railroad station in the U.S. sector of Berlin. It was this station which made necessary annoying and long by-passes during the Berlin Whitsun rally. /24/

(3) With a view to improve traffic conditions in the uranium mining district, the laying of a second track on the Aue-Schwarzenberg-Johanngeorgenstadt line has been started. /25/ This project is scheduled for completion by the end of 1950.

(4) After the Berlin-Koenigswusterhausen line section of the Berlin-Cottbus-Senftenberg line has again been made double-track it is planned to extend this double-track section as far as Luebbenau. The target date for the completion of this project is the end of 1950. The project will essentially improve the capacity of this line, which has to handle a heavy burden of coal shipments.

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d. Following Soviet orders, the Directorate General has decreed the formation of a reserve of locomotives. By October 1950 these reserves are to be as follows:

Available to the Soviet Control Commission:
 400 heavy-duty freight train locomotives
 30 heavy-duty passenger train locomotives

This represents a 35 percent increase over the 1949 reserve.

Available to the railroad district administration:
 100 heavy-duty freight locomotives
 20 heavy-duty passenger train locomotives

This is a 20 percent increase over the 1949 reserve. Since these locomotives, which include the best and heaviest, will have to be withdrawn from current operations, the formation of the mentioned reserve of locomotives constitutes a heavy strain on the Soviet zone railroad system.

9. MGB/MVD units.

a. The location of MGB/MVD units in the following towns was confirmed:

(1) Freiberg.

A unit of 300 to 350 men was located in the former high school building on Turnerstrasse on 14 April 1950. Another unit of undetermined strength was still located in nearby Branderbisdorf on 15 April 1950.

(2) Chemnitz: One or two MGB/MVD battalions were located in the barracks on Leninstrasse on 16 April 1950.

(3) Gruenau: A unit of unidentified strength was stationed in the barracks on Regattastrasse in April 1950.

(4) Halle: About 600 MGB/MVD troops were stationed in the barracks on Reilstrasse on 8 April 1950. An MGB/MVD officer wearing artillery insignia was observed for the first time.

(5) Leipzig: Four hundred to five hundred men were quartered in the barracks on Planitzstrasse on 2 May 1950.

b. A truck convoy hauling furniture was observed in Falkensee in mid-April 1950. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] it belonged to an MGB/MVD unit which was previously observed in the Schwerin-Guestrow area.

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Austria-western Hungary

The general disposition of the elements of the Central Group of Forces in Austria and western Hungary remained constant up to mid-May 1950.

10. Training areas.

a. According to available reports and [] analysis, elements of the GHQ units of the Central Group of Forces, elements of the 13th Gds Mecz Div, and probably elements of the 95th Gds Mtz Rifle Div started leaving for the Doellersheim troop training grounds in mid-April 1950, as they did in 1949.

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As tank components of the 106th Gds Hv Tank SP Regt/13th Gds Mecz Div were still identified at their Kagan post on 26 May 1950, it must be concluded that not all of the 13th Gds Mecz Div was at the troop training grounds by that time.
/27/

b. AAA troops [] - belonged to the Stockerau GHQ AAA unit of the Central Group of Forces (23rd (1) AAA Div or Regt) were located in a troop camp south of Apetlon on 18 May 1950./28/ As only rear details were reported to be staying in the Stockerau barracks at the same time, it can be assumed that the AAA units concerned moved to the Apetlon training area, as they did in 1949.

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c. Several reports from the Szombathegy billeting area of the 17th Gds Mecz Div indicate that elements of the division went to the Haymasker troop training grounds in late April 1950./29/

11. Order of Battle data.

Detailed data on the Soviet Order of Battle situation in Austria and western Hungary as of mid-May 1950 is available.**

Eastern Hungary-Romania

12. Eastern Hungary.

Soviet troops, including tank units, were observed in the Szolnok-Cegled-Jazbereny area SE of Budapest, in late March and early April 1950./30/ and /35/ These troops probably belonged to the same unit (mechanized or tank division ?) which was sighted in the Kecskemet area in January 1950./36/ The troops presumably belonged to those who had been shifted from Rumania and the U.S.S.R. to the Hungarian-Yugoslav border area in the late Fall of 1949. The identity of the units is not known. They may have belonged to the 2d Gds Mecz Div, which was previously located in the Craiova area, Rumania.

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13. Rumania.

Soviet troops, coming by road from an easterly direction, arrived in Arad on 15 April 1950./31/ Four trains carrying Soviet troops (estimated at one regiment) passed through the Alba Julia railroad station on 19 and 20 April 1950 and probably proceeded to the Timisoara-Arad area./32/ The identity of these units is not known.

U.S.S.R.

14. A report compiling information from former German PWs on troops and supply installations in the northern portion of the Moscow MD was previously forwarded./33/

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* Comment. See Annex 1 for detailed data on Soviet Order of Battle situation in Germany as of mid-May 1950.

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** Comment: See Annex 2 for detailed data on Soviet Order of Battle in Austria and western Hungary as of mid-May 1950.

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